

SEP 20 2004

EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE

PATENT
Docket No. 57160US002IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Darren T. CASTRO et al.) Group Art Unit: 1775
Serial No.: 10/034,642) Examiner: Gwendolyn Blackwell
Confirmation No.: 9543) Rudasil
Filed: 28 December 2001)
For: POLYCRYSTALLINE TRANSLUCENT ALUMINA-BASED CERAMIC
MATERIAL, USES, AND METHODS

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO THE PTO

Commissioner for Patents

Mail Stop AF

Attn: Examiner Gwendolyn Blackwell Rudasil

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9306Total Pages (including cover page): 23 pgs.Time: 5:06 p.m. (Central Time)(Transmission must be complete by
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September 20 2004
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Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

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20 September 2004
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Signature: [Signature]Name: Rachel Baglini-Gaban

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 19, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on the page entitled "Amendments to the Claims."

Remarks begin on the page entitled "Remarks."